

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

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Electro-Optic Materials Based Upon Inorganic Semiconductor

Nanorod Liquid Crystals

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6. AUTHOR(S)

A. Paul Alivisatos

5d. PROJECT NUMBER

5e. TASK NUMBER

5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER

7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)

University of California,
Berkeley
Depart of Chemistry
D43A Hildebrand Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720-1460

8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER

9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)

AFOSR
4015 Wilson Blvd., Rm 713
Arlington, VA 22203-1954

Dr Michael Berman/NA

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13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

14. ABSTRACT

In this project we developed a new type of material system for use in opto-electronic applications. It consists of an array of nanorods. The nanorods are quantum semiconductor structures with high fluorescence quantum yields, and with their bandgap emission energy controlled by the diameter of the rod. These quantum rods are coated with a monolayer of organic surfactant which renders them highly soluble in organic liquids. We demonstrated a method by which these nanorods can be deposited from solution in the presence of an electric field, such that the nanorods are oriented perpendicularly to the substrate.

15. SUBJECT TERMS

Nanocrystals, nanorods, electro-optic materials

16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:

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b. ABSTRACT

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Rita Tidwell

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Final Technical Report
Electro-Optic Materials Based Upon Inorganic
Semiconductor Nanorod Liquid Crystals
AFOSR Grant No. FA9550-04-1-0065

January 1, 2004 – December 31, 2006

A. Paul Alivisatos
Larry and Diane Bock Professor of Nanotechnology
Department of Chemistry
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California 94720-1460

T 510 643 7371
F 510 642 6911
Email: alivis@berkeley.edu

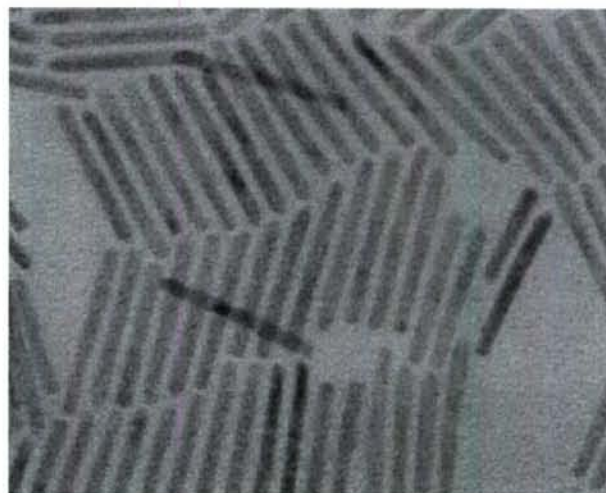
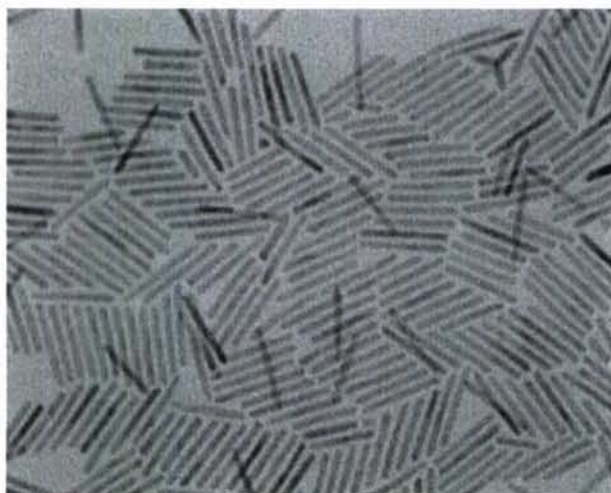
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Final Technical Report

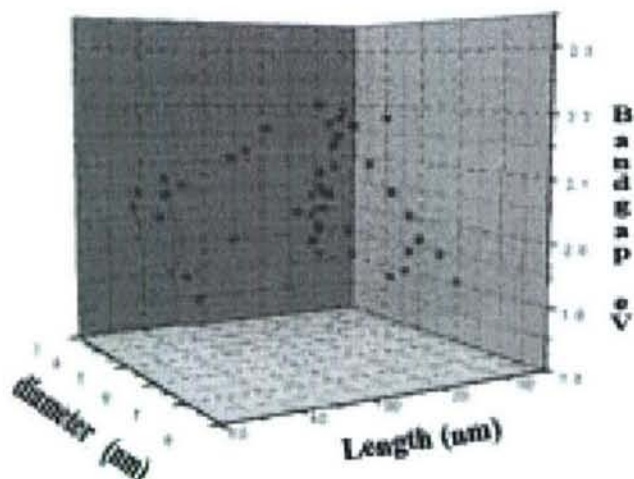
In the course of this proposal we have developed arrays of luminescent quantum rods, by deposition from solution. There are two aspects of the project which are of note. First is the solution process for growing rods, and the second is the approach employed for producing the arrays.

Quantum rods

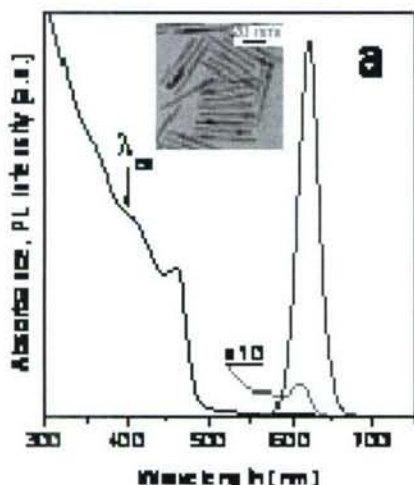
We prepare quantum rods by growing nanocrystals of CdS/CdSe in a hot organic liquid (see Y. Yin and A. P. Alivisatos, "Colloidal nanocrystal synthesis and the organic-inorganic interface," *Nature* **437** (7059), 664 (2005).) A couple of examples of these quantum rods is shown below:



The bandgap of the rods can readily be tuned by variation of the diameter, while the length can be independently adjusted and has no effect on the bandgap, as shown below:

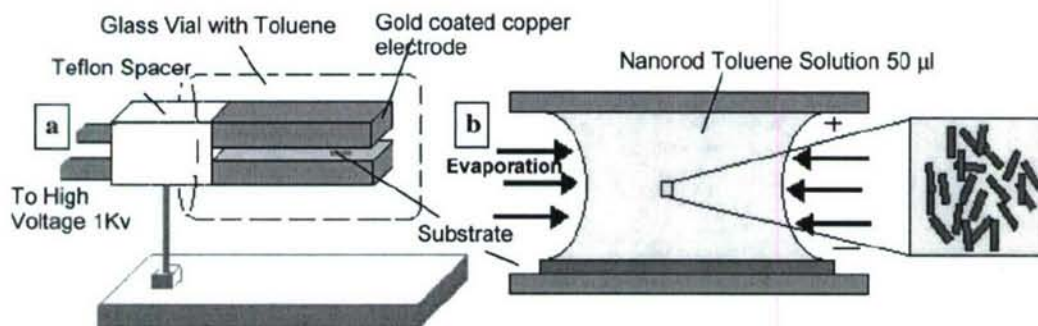


Of particular interest recently has been the success in obtaining such nanocrystals with high luminescence quantum yields, as high as 80%:

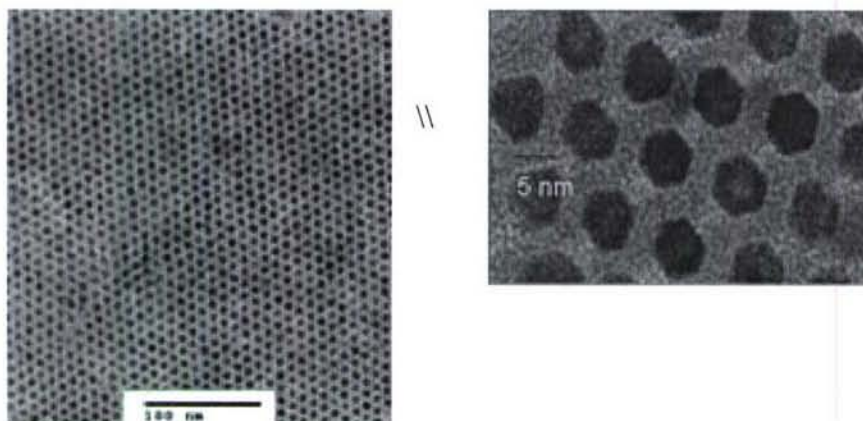


Alignment on substrates

As part of this project, we developed a robust approach for depositing ordered films of such nanocrystals, with the long axis oriented perpendicular to the substrate. This is done by evaporation of a solution containing the rods in the presence of an electric field.



Here are some examples of aligned rod systems:



These aligned nanorod systems with polarized light emission and high luminescence yields could be used in a variety of technologies of interest to AFOSR, especially in light emitting diodes and lasers.

Personnel Supported: List professional personnel (Faculty, Post-Docs, Graduate Students, etc.) supported by and/or associated with the research effort.

Principal Investigator: Paul Alivisatos

Graduate Student: Noelle Drugan, Kristi Koski, Max Merkle

Postdoc: Antonis Kanaras (50%); Kevin Ryan

Scholar: Giulia Adesso

Publications: List peer-reviewed publications submitted and/or accepted :

M. F. Casula, Y.-W. Jun, D. J. Zaziski, E. M. Chan, A. Corrias and A. P. Alivisatos, "The Concept of Delayed Nucleation in Nanocrystal Growth Demonstrated for the Case of Iron Oxide Nanodisks," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 128, 1675-1682 (2006).

Y. Yin, C. K. Erdonmez, A. Cabot, S. Hughes, and A. P. Alivisatos, "Colloidal Synthesis of Hollow Cobalt Sulfide Nanocrystals," Adv. Func. Mat., 16, 1389-1399 (July 2006).

NOT YET REPORTED TO AFOSR:

K. M. Ryan, A. Mastroianni, K. A. Stancil, H. Liu, and A. P. Alivisatos, "Electric-Field-Assisted Assembly of Perpendicularly Oriented Nanorod Superlattices," Nano Lett., 6(7), 1479-1482 (June 2006).

